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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/975,332	10/10/2001	Naoyuki Goto	645-150	2695 <i>R</i>
7590	10/02/2002			

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EXAMINER
BLACKWELL RUDASIL, GWENDOLYN A

ART UNIT 1775 PAPER NUMBER 2
DATE MAILED: 10/02/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/975,332	GOTO, NAOYUKI	
	Examiner Gwendolyn A. Blackwell-Rudasill	Art Unit 1775	
-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --			
Period for Reply <p>A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 			
Status <p>1) <input type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.</p> <p>2a) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL. 2b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.</p> <p>3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i>, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.</p>			
Disposition of Claims <p>4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are pending in the application.</p> <p>4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.</p> <p>5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.</p> <p>6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are rejected.</p> <p>7) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>12-16 and 23</u> is/are objected to.</p> <p>8) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.</p>			
Application Papers <p>9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.</p> <p>10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) <input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b) <input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).</p> <p>11) <input type="checkbox"/> The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) <input type="checkbox"/> approved b) <input type="checkbox"/> disapproved by the Examiner.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.</p> <p>12) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.</p>			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120 <p>13) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</p> <p>a) <input type="checkbox"/> All b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some * c) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None of:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</p> <p>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</p> <p>14) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).</p> <p>a) <input type="checkbox"/> The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.</p> <p>15) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.</p>			
Attachment(s) <p>1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</p> <p>2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</p> <p>3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.</p> <p>4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.</p> <p>5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</p> <p>6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.</p>			

DETAILED ACTION*Claim Objections*

1. Applicant is advised that should claims 1-5 and 17 be found allowable, claims 12-16 and 23, respectively, will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4 and 9-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent no. 4,390,638, Mennemann et al.

Mennemann et al., discloses an optical glass having the composition in weight percent of: 18-36% SiO₂, 3-18% B₂O₃, 0-14% P₂O₅, 0-12% Li₂O, 0-14% Na₂O, 0-18% K₂O, 0-15% MgO, 7-25% CaO, 0-13% SrO, 0-17% BaO, 0-15% ZnO, 3-14% TiO₂, 0-13% Nb₂O₅, 0-10% WO₃, 0-15% ZrO₂, 0-20% La₂O₃, 0-16% Y₂O₃, and 0-13% Ta₂O₅, with a coefficient of thermal expansion of 90-98 x 10⁻⁷/°C over the temperature range of 20-300°C, meeting the requirements of claims 1-4, 7-10, 12-15, 17-21, and 23, (columns 1-2, lines 45-68).

A chemical composition and it's properties are inseparable. *MPEP 2112.02*. Because the prior art exemplifies the applicant's claimed composition in relation to the glass composition, the claimed physical properties are inherently present in the prior art. As such, the addition of the claimed physical property to the claim language fails to provide patentable distinction over the prior art.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5-6, 11, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent no. 4,390,638, Mennemann et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of United States Patent no. 5,719,989, Cushing.

Mennemann et al., disclose the limitations of claim 1 as set out above. Mennemann et al., do not disclose that the optical glass can be used in a light filter.

Cushing discloses a light filter utilizing a glass substrate, (columns 5-6, lines 65-2). The light filter is comprised of dielectric layers made of materials such as silicon dioxide, tantalum pentoxide, niobium oxide and aluminum oxide, which are stacked in the glass substrate. Cushing does not disclose the specific composition of the glass substrate.

The optical glass of Mennemann et al., can be used in optical systems, (column 1, lines 10-45). Because the glass of Mennemann et al., can be used in optical systems and the light

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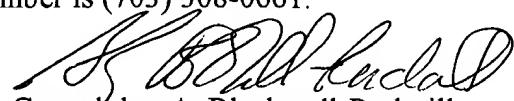
filter of Cushing discloses an invention, which utilizes a glass for a substrate, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to use the glass of Mennemann et al., as the substrate for the light filter of Cushing.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gwendolyn A. Blackwell-Rudasill whose telephone number is (703) 305-9741. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday; 6:30 am - 3:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Jones can be reached on (703) 308-3822. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.



Gwendolyn A. Blackwell-Rudasill
Examiner
Art Unit 1775

gbr
September 26, 2002



DEBORAH JONES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER